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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1           1.       (currently amended) A method for translating control messages between a  
2 network manager and a router, the method comprising:

3                    sending an input command message from the network manager to the router, said  
4 input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;

5                    ~~intercepting, at a host having a translator module, the an input command message~~  
6 ~~intended for said router, said router partitioned into a plurality of logical router partitions, said~~  
7 ~~input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;~~

8                    translating the logical router partition expressed in said input command message  
9 into a physical router expression;

10                   altering the input command message thereby the logical router partition  
11 expression is changed to the physical router expression; and

12                    propagating said input command message, including any altered ~~translated~~  
13 expressions, from the host toward said router.

1           2.       (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of translating comprises:  
2                    translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1           3.       (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said intercepting step comprises:  
2                    indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input  
3 command message.

1           4.       (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                    intercepting a return message from the router, said return message expressed in  
3 physical router terms;

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4 translating said physical router expression of said return message into a logical  
5 router partition and  
6 propagating said translated return message toward said network manager.

1 5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said step of translating said physical  
2 router expression comprises:  
3 translating a physical router target identifier to a logical target identifier.

1 6. (previously amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising determining  
2 said logical target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and an index, an  
3 input and the return correlation tags having a predetermined relationship.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the return message comprises at least  
2 one of a command response message and an acknowledgment message.

1 8. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2 intercepting an autonomous message from one of the network elements, said  
3 autonomous message expressed in terms of an access identifier;  
4 matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;  
5 translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and  
6 propagating the translated autonomous message toward the network manager.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the autonomous message comprises an  
2 alarm message.

1 10. (currently amended) A method for translating control messages between a  
2 network manager and a router, said router represented as a plurality of logical partitions, said  
3 method comprising:

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4 intercepting, at a host having a translator module, an input transaction language  
5 (TL1) message from the network manager intended for the router, wherein the first TL1 message  
6 is expressed with a logical target identifier;

7 translating the logical target identifier of the intercepted input TL1 message to a  
8 physical router target identifier;

9 altering the TL1 thereby the logical target identifier is changed to the physical  
10 router target identifier; and

11 propagating the translated TL1 message, including any altered translated  
12 expressions, from the host toward the router.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said intercepting step further  
2 comprises:

3 indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input  
4 TL1 message.

1 12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
2 intercepting a return transaction language (TL1) message from the router to the  
3 network manager, wherein the return TL1 message is expressed with a physical router target  
4 identifier;

5 translating the physical router target identifier of the intercepted return TL1  
6 message to a logical target identifier; and

7 propagating the TL1 message, including any translated expressions, toward the  
8 router.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising determining said logical  
2 target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and said index, wherein said  
3 input and return correlation tags are equivalent.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the return TL1 message comprises at  
2 least one of a command response message and an acknowledgement message.

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1           15.     (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:  
2                     intercepting an autonomous TL1 message from one of the network elements, said  
3 autonomous TL1 message expressed in terms of an access identifier;  
4                     matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;  
5                     translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and  
6                     propagating the autonomous message, including any translated expressions,  
7 toward the network manager.

1           16.     (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the autonomous TL1 message  
2 comprises an alarm message.

1           17.     (currently amended) Apparatus for routing control messages between a network  
2 manager and a router, comprising:

3                     means for intercepting, at a host having a translator module, an input command  
4 message intended for said router, said router partitioned into a plurality of logical router  
5 partitions, said input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;

6                     means for translating each logical router partition expressed in said input  
7 command message into a physical router expression;

8                     means for altering the input command message thereby the logical router partition  
9 expression is changed to the physical router expression; and

10                    means for propagating the input command message, including any altered  
11 translated expressions, from the host toward the router.

1           18.     (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said translating means comprises:  
2 translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1           19.     (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said intercepting step comprises:  
2                     means for indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of  
3 said input command message.

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- 1           20.     (original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                   means for intercepting a return message from the router, said return message  
3     expressed in physical router terms;  
4                   means for translating said physical router expression of said return message into a  
5     logical router partition; and  
6                   means for propagating said return message, including any translated expressions,  
7     toward said network manager.